

The Forerunner.

Sweetwater, Thursday, July 30, 1868

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT
HORATIO SEYMOUR,
OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT
FRANK P. BLAIR,
OF MISSOURI.

"In the spirit, then, of George Washington, and of the patriots of the Revolution, let us take the steps to reannate our Government, to start it once again on its course of greatness and prosperity. May Almighty God give us the wisdom to carry out our purposes, to give every State of the Union the blessings of peace, good will and fraternity.—HORATIO SEYMOUR.

In speaking of the Radical candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, and of the Radical party generally, the Banner of the South uses the following language:

As men of the South, our opposition of them becomes stronger and more intense. Their party has mercilessly crushed us. They have placed over us a set of petty tyrants, who are trampling us down. They wish to leave us to the tender mercies of the Negro race. They have heaped sorrow upon sorrow in our desolate land, and they brandish the sword of despotism over our heads if we dare to protest. They have done against us what they would not have dared to do had we arms in our hands. They have violated their pledges, broken all their promises; and while they would bind us to our paroles, they consider themselves free to do with us and against us whatsoever they please. Rule for them is ruin for us. Their election would entail upon us a permanent despotism. Grant as the slaughterer, was bad enough—as President, he would be infinitely worse.

On other grounds, and for other reasons, not less just, we oppose them, their party, and their principles. The Radical party has broken the Constitution, and, therefore, forfeited all right to administer the Government. Elected under it, and according to its provisions; receiving their powers from it; sworn to uphold it and act under it; limited by it, and solemnly pledged to preserve it, they have disregarded it—treated it as a dead letter—and they have made the dark hatreds of their own hearts the only constitution under which they would administer the Government. They have attempted to silence the Judiciary, and to fetter the hands of the Executive, and centralize and consolidate all powers in their own hands. And thus they are revolutionizing the Government, and the people have the right of revolution against them even by arms; and if the people of the North were men they would have hurled them from their places long since. Perhaps, however, to wait in patience and endure a while, was the better course. Perhaps it was not. Time will tell. This we do know, from history and experience, that the longer a party holds power, the harder it is to wrest that power from their hands. Not without a desperate struggle at the ballot-box will that party yield. If beaten by ballot, it is not altogether sure that they will not appeal to arms. Only one thing will prevent that—their cowardice. Since, then, that party has broken the Constitution—since its principles, proposed and practiced, are opposed to the principles of the Constitution; since its history has been a series of infractions of the Constitution; since its acknowledged leaders boast that they have acted outside of the Constitution; since the interests of that party are plainly subversive of law, and order, and civil rights, if their candidates are elected, then one of two things; either the Constitution is officially abrogated by the people; or, if it be still in force, the supreme law of the land, then that party's candidates ought to be prevented from taking their seats.

On the other hand, whatever little of pure political principle is left in the country, is to be found in the Democratic organization. It is a Constitutional party, with Constitutional principles; and because Seymour and Blair personate their principles do we hope for their success. The South, we are confident, will be overjoyed at their election, and will labor stren-

uously and with might and main to secure it. They elected, our oppressions will cease, most of our wrongs will be redressed, and prosperity and plenty will be ours once more. Their election is our only hope. God grant that in November that hope may be realized.

The Shelbyville Union expresses a preference for Andrew Johnson as the Democratic candidate for Governor of Tennessee at the next election. The Union asks: "Would Mr. Johnson accept such a position?" and answers its own question, "We are certain he would." If President Johnson should consent to accept the candidacy of the Democratic party in the next election, he would strike terror to the Radical delirium.

The Electoral College.

For the information of our readers we republish the following table:

Alabama.....	8	Missouri.....	11
Arkansas.....	5	Nebraska.....	3
California.....	5	Nevada.....	3
Connecticut.....	6	New Hampshire.....	5
Delaware.....	3	New Jersey.....	7
Florida.....	3	New York.....	33
Georgia.....	9	North Carolina.....	9
Illinois.....	16	Ohio.....	21
Indiana.....	13	Oregon.....	3
Iowa.....	8	Pennsylvania.....	26
Kansas.....	3	Rhode Island.....	4
Kentucky.....	11	South Carolina.....	6
Louisiana.....	7	Tennessee.....	10
Maine.....	8	Texas.....	6
Maryland.....	7	Vermont.....	5
Michigan.....	8	Virginia.....	10
Minnesota.....	4	West Virginia.....	5
Massachusetts.....	12	Wisconsin.....	8
Mississippi.....	7		
Total votes.....	317		
Necessary to a choice.....	159		

In case Colorado shall be admitted prior to the election the aggregate number of electors will be increased to 320.

The Presidential Vote.

The list made up by the political accountants, as exhibiting the true strength of the Democratic nomination, and the probable result, next November is as follows:

Connecticut.....	6
New York.....	33
New Jersey.....	7
Pennsylvania.....	26
Ohio.....	21
Indiana.....	13
Wisconsin.....	6
Nebraska.....	3
California.....	5
Oregon.....	3
Nevada.....	3
Missouri.....	11
Kentucky.....	11
Maryland.....	8
Delaware.....	3
Total.....	159

To this, a requisite majority, may be added the eight votes of Missouri. The total will be one hundred and sixty-seven votes. A majority of the electoral college will be obtained from these Northern States without the aid of a single Southern vote.

Nor do we deem this calculation extravagant. Connecticut in the last Governor's election gave James E. English a majority of nine hundred and seventy-seven votes. In the last four years the vote on the Democratic side has increased nearly three thousand five hundred. It is beyond doubt that, under the head of those gallant Democrats, English, Eaton, and Thomas H. Seymour, the Democratic majority will be largely increased next November.

New York, in her last State election, gave a Democratic majority of 47,930. This was the first Democratic victory in five years. The city of New York is largely Democratic. It is true that in the city the merchants cherished an enthusiastic preference for Chase, and, therefore, there has been, and perhaps still exists a lukewarmness, arising more from a feeling of disappointment than disaffection. But New York—both city and State—have more at stake in the success of the Democratic ticket next Fall than any other State and city of the North. Their shrewd, sharp, sagacious, business men know and appreciate this fact, and will not fail to give an active, hearty support to the Democratic ticket. Mr. Seymour is one whom New Yorkers take pride in and delight to honor. John T. Hoffman will probably be the Democratic candidate for Governor. Seymour and Hoffman is such a combination as will bring out enthusiastically the whole Democratic vote. New York will poll her electoral vote for Seymour and Blair by a majority double that of her last State election.

New Jersey has always been true to Democracy, with the exception of the single year 1865. In 1867 the Democrats of New Jersey polled a majority of 16,850. In 1868 this majority will be largely augmented for Seymour and Blair.

The twenty-six votes of Pennsylvania can be counted upon with certainty for Seymour and Blair. The Keystone State has long been identified with Democracy, both by interest and sentiment. In 1867, Judge Sharswood (Democrat), was elected

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court by a majority of nine hundred and twenty-two, over a distinguished and accomplished opponent who came into the field with a Republican majority of 17,178, and in spite of a decision which the Judge had made on a question relating to legal-tender notes, which was exceedingly obnoxious to the moneyed interests of the State. Pennsylvania will go for Seymour and Blair, and increase her Democratic majority more than ten-fold.

Every one is familiar with the late great reaction which has taken place in Ohio, by which the negro suffrage constitution was defeated by more than fifty thousand majority, and although that sterling Democrat, Thurman, lost the Governorship by a doubtful majority, both branches of the Legislature was carried, and "old Ben Wade" ejected from his Senatorial chair. The Democracy of Ohio has been divided, split up into copperhead factions, and war Democrats, and what not. To-day the Democratic party is a unit, all feuds have been buried and the party is working enthusiastically and harmoniously.

In Indiana there has been a great reaction since 1866, the date of the last State election, which gave a Republican majority. The Delegates to the Democratic Convention pledge their State for the Democracy, promising to follow the footsteps of Ohio.

Of the remaining States, Wisconsin and Missouri are the only ones at all doubtful. As to Wisconsin, there is every indication that the Democracy will triumph in the next election. Missouri is undoubtedly Democratic. The only element for doubt is the iniquitous disfranchisement of a large class of her citizens. But the German element is indignant at the frauds and iniquities practiced by the Radicals, who now rule the State. We count confidently on Missouri for the Democracy.

Taking a general, broad, comprehensive view, there is everything to encourage the Democracy and warrant success. The people are tired of war and the uncertainties of quasi war. They are tired of Radical misrule and profligacy. General Grant is the exponent of war. His idea of government, by his own confession, extends no farther than the order book and the bayonet. To elect the General Commanding the armies of the United States the President of the United States, is the first step to a military government, thus laying the foundation stone for an Empire and crushing the corner stone of the Republic. The precedent will not be without avail. Each succeeding aspirant for Presidential honors will regard the sword and epaulettes as the warrants for civil power—the emblems of civil virtue. The people of the whole country, knowing the danger which would inevitably ensue to constitutional government on the election of General Grant, are determined to elect Seymour and Blair, and thereby restore peace and liberty, and the union of our forefathers.

Terrible State of Affairs in Middle Tennessee.

A War of Races Apprehended.

A terrible state of affairs exists in Williamson and Maury counties, in this State, which is the direct result of the radical policy and more particularly of the infamous abuse of the pardoning power by Governor Brownlow, by which loyal men are permitted to commit all kinds of crime with impunity.

The latest phase of the negro war in Williamson, is thus related by the Nashville Banner of the 21st:

In Sunday morning's issue we gave the particulars of the shooting of a negro named Wm. Gustine, at Franklin, for brutally outraging the person of a young white girl named Ezell, aged about thirteen years, and also for committing outrages upon the persons of two small colored girls. His execution took place on Friday night at midnight, and was supposed to have been done by the Ku Klux, or at least by persons in disguise and unknown to our informant.

The bloody sequel to this tragic affair, it is our painful duty to have to record this morning. At half-past twelve o'clock on the Saturday night succeeding the summary execution of the black fiend, a young man by the name of Jeremiah Ezell, a half-brother, we believe, to the young lady who was outraged, was shot and killed near Franklin, on the Carter's Creek Pike, by a band of negroes in ambush. The negroes, it is thought, were led by white men, and numbered about fifty.

Young Ezell with a party of other young men was returning from Franklin. The party numbered eight persons and were not disguised, and were proceeding quietly along the road. The following are the particulars, so far as we have been able to gather them up to the hour of going to press: On last Saturday it was reported in Franklin that the negroes in the vicinity, incensed at the killing of Gustine, were threatening mob violence toward the white citizens, and that they intended to burn the town. A correspondent who furnishes these particulars, informs us that some of the citizens from the suburbs and around the place, came to him and asked him if he thought they would be needed.

He told them to send in about thirty men to hold as reserve, and that he would come and meet them.

At ten o'clock p. m. Saturday night, he rode out about three miles, passing a squad of negroes.

A short distance beyond this point he met the citizens, selected eight of them, and rode into town, disturbing no one, and saying not a word to anybody. They remained in town on the watch for an attack for little better than an hour, when, believing there would be no difficulty, our informant told them they had as well go home to their families.

Accordingly, they started, and had got about a mile and a half from town, when they were fired upon by a party of negroes and a white man concealed in ambush.

The ambuscade consisted of sixteen negroes and two white men, making eighteen in all.

Young Ezell was shot by the assassins and mortally wounded. A young man named Beasley was also shot through the foot and his horse was badly hurt.

We have since learned that young Ezell died on Saturday night. The citizens of Franklin were up all night Sunday night, guarding the town, and no little excitement prevailed, in apprehension of further hostile demonstrations on the part of the negro assassins and their white leaders.

There was no disturbance yesterday, though the inhabitants were ready for an emergency and abundantly prepared for the worst.

The Columbia Herald gives the following information of how the negroes are conducting themselves in Maury county:

"Last Sunday night the family of James Freeland, deceased, were awakened by a sudden scream, and the violent entering of the room from the room up stairs. After striking a light it was discovered to be Mr. Tink Freeland, bleeding profusely and unable to speak. He narrowly escaped being shot while in the dark. He knew not what had occurred, and appeared even unconscious of being dangerously wounded. On going up stairs the would-be assassin was discovered, a negro boy about 14 years old. He is represented as having been a very ferocious looking negro—having a very peculiarly shaped head. He afterwards confessed to the deed, and gave his plans in detail. Several weeks previous he asked some one of the place whether sticking in the throat with a knife would produce death, and was answered in the affirmative. A short time thereafter he desired to know of the same person whether an axe would prove a more serious weapon than a knife, and again received an affirmative answer. He crept up stairs stealthily with an axe got down upon his knees beside the sleeper, and cut Mr. Freeland across the throat, inflicting a dangerous and probably fatal wound.

"It seems that a party started with the prisoner for Columbia to put him in jail, and were met on the road by another party who took the prisoner forcibly from them and immediately hung and shot him. In this confession he implicated several other negroes, who were immediately arrested. No convicting evidence could be brought against one of them, a woman, and she was released. Another one, a young negro man, arrested as an accomplice, was brought to town and lodged in jail. On Tuesday he was ordered to be tried in his own district, by Esquire Harries, but before the trial came off he was taken from his guard by a party of men, unknown, and has not since been heard from.

ANOTHER MURDER.

The same paper also has the following: "Last Sunday morning, on the Colin Campbell place, 3 miles Southwest of Bigbyville, a foul murder was committed upon Isaac McCulloch, by Henry Stubbs, both negroes. Stubbs' wife had told him that McCulloch had attempted to whip her. Without waiting to find out whether the story was true or not, he loaded his gun, an army gun, with shot and balls, and on Sunday morning went "gunning" after the said McCulloch. He found him walking in his watermelon patch, and went towards him, but the latter, on seeing the gun, made an effort to escape, when Stubbs shot him in the back, some ten or twelve shots taking effect."

WILMINGTON, N. C., July 22.—The new sheriff appointed two negroes and one white deputies. A negro deputy to be jailor.

The refreshing rains in this section came in time to save most of the crops. The corn in some localities was hopelessly ruined before the rain fell.

Political excitement is high, and will probably surpass that of 1840, before the close of the campaign.

Wendell Phillips says:

It is a great misfortune that we have no opposition, no appreciable Democratic party in the field.

That is a misfortune soon remedied and one of which he will not complain after November next.

A Correspondent of the Shelbyville Union suggests Judge H. L. Davidson, of Bedford county, for Elector for the State at large on the Democratic ticket, in the place of Hon. George W. Jones, who has declined.

From the New Haven Register.

Was Mrs. Surratt Murdered?

We have not the pleasure of General Butler's confidence, but we should like to know his opinion of Bingham at the present time. Several months ago General Butler gave it as his deliberate opinion that Bingham had been guilty of "murdering an innocent woman." Since that opinion was expressed, many things have transpired which have a tendency to prove that Butler was correct. The evidence produced before that military court, presided over by General Hunter, did not prove Mrs. Surratt a criminal. But the court was not organized for impartial work, and Mrs. Surratt, who never heard of a plot which had for its object the assassination of President Lincoln, was condemned on suspicion. In a recent letter, a correspondent of a New York daily tells how he was repulsed by that cruel and bloodthirsty scoundrel, the Secretary of War, who stood guard over the White House and its occupants. How many interceded for the relief of this woman we shall never know, but the nation does know that this same Stanton indecently refused the requests of Mrs. Douglas and Miss Surratt for admission to the President. The disgrace of the execution which followed, is generally admitted to have been the cause of the death of one distinguished Republican—but Stanton seems to have rejoiced over it.

The trial of Surratt, the son, by a jury of his peers, for the same crime for which his mother was executed, is familiar to the public. After a trial which lasted many weeks, the jury stood two to one for acquittal, but could not agree. The government had used every means to justify that horrible execution which shocked the nation, and the result was a complete failure. And after a long delay, the charge is abandoned by the government, and another crime is now alleged. That John H. Surratt was not guilty of having conspired to take the life of Abraham Lincoln is now admitted by the counsel for the Government. That he knows more of the plot than his mother did is an admitted fact. If Mrs. Surratt was guilty of the crime for which she was hung, John H. Surratt is doubly guilty. The admission of the innocence of the son is proof of Butler's assertion that Bingham had succeeded in "murdering an innocent woman."

The main charge now made against John H. Surratt is that he conspired to abduct Mr. Lincoln, then President of the United States. Should he be convicted, the punishment will be imprisonment for not more than five years, or by a fine not more than ten thousand dollars, or by such fine and imprisonment both. The crime is a mild one, compared with that of which he was first accused. In view of these facts, was not Mrs. Surratt murdered? Let an intelligent public answer.

From the New York Sun, (Republican.)

Attacks on Gov. Seymour.

Some of our Republican contemporaries attempt to prejudice the prospects of the Democratic ticket by intimating or asserting that Gov. Seymour is of too delicate a constitution that the duties of the Presidency will break down the balance of his mind and make him insane. In that event, as Senator Nye has asserted, Gen. Blair would become President, and at once carry out his programme of anarchy and bloodshed.

This appears to us a very improper mode of political warfare, which must recoil upon those who employ it. It seems designed to wound private feelings rather than to advance any legitimate purpose.

Gov. Seymour is now 57 years old. He has been many years in public life; he has repeatedly been Governor of New York, an office whose discharge exercises quite as great a strain upon the nervous system and the mental faculties as that of the Presidency. In this station, and in every other, Gov. Seymour has exhibited capacity and steadiness which have given him a great reputation as a statesman. There has been nothing in his public career to justify this bugbear of possible insanity. We trust that our Republican friends will see the wisdom of confining their attacks to the principles, antecedents, platform, and public acts of their opponents, rather than to their real or imaginary personal or physical peculiarities.

ALL QUIET ON THE HOLSTON.—We notice in several of our State exchanges apprehensions of bloodshed in Knoxville. We take pleasure in informing them that the empire is peace. With the exception of the sad event already reported in these columns, there have been no hostile encounters, and we hear of none in prospect. [Press and Herald.]

Mr. Henry Watterson, late of the Nashville Banner, and now of the Louisville Journal, is certainly in the front rank of the rising journalists of the country. We have never seen so great an improvement in a paper as the Journal has shown since Mr. Watterson assumed its management. The old Thunderer seems to have taken a new lease of life.—Press and Herald.